M/047/010

From:

<Pete Sokolosky@ut.blm.gov>

To:

<Paulbaker@utah.gov>

Date:

3/10/04 10:50AM

Subject:

M/047/010 - Got the maps

Paul -

I received the map showing the location of the road segments involved in American Gilsonite Company's request. Thanks for sending it along.

According to our title plats, a portion or all of the following roads cross public lands (administered by the BLM) - 6, 7, 13, 14, 15, and 17.

The following roads need a closer look to determine whether or not they meander outside of private lands (along patented gilsonite veins) and onto public lands - 6, 7 and 18.

The following road segments (as shown on special road status maps on file in our office) are indicated as being maintained [by Uintah County or the BLM] - a portion of 6 and all of 7, 9 and 13. This means that AGC would not necessarily need a right-of-way grant from the BLM if they utilize these segments for commercial use (e.g., hauling gilsonite between a mine and their plant). All other road segments are not maintained. If a non-maintained road crosses public lands and a company wants to use such for commercial uses or wish to maintain them to provide a degree of access to private lands, then they need to apply to our office for a ROW grant prior to such commercial use. I think in the matter of road segments 14, 15, and 17 [and where segments 6, 7 and 18 deviate outside of private lands along the cowboy, independent and rainbow veins], where the road may be used to access gilsonite veins on private land (that the company may own), the company may want to establish a ROW with the BLM to assure they will have continued access to the vein (if some mineable gilsonite remains on the property).

I think it would be worthwhile to consult further on the matter of the roads when you are in the Vernal area. If you will want a formal reply from our office regarding AGC's request for release from liability in the matter of the roads, I would recommend that Wayne Hedberg direct such to our office's Field Manager (right now that position is vacant, Howard Cleavinger is the current acting Field Manager; Bill Stringer has been selected to fill the Field Manager position and he reports for duty later this month).

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Pete Sokolosky Vernal Field Office-BLM (435) 781-4501